

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 556

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sherry Mays, Damon Wells and Demetria Mays of Kenton, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the tragic and untimely death of Ms. Sherry Mays, her son, Damon Wells, and her granddaughter, Demetria Mays; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sherry Mays was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, as an Assistant Pastor of the Beech Grove Baptist Church, Ms. Mays expressed her deep and unswerving Christian faith through her inspiring speech but, more importantly, it was evidenced through her worthy actions in service of humanity; Sherry Mays' exemplary life and profound belief in prayer inspired the members of her congregation to live more examined lives and make a positive impact on their community; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Mays was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mays' love for her family extended far beyond the roles of mother and grandmother; she also expressed her love by offering counsel and advice as a best friend; and

WHEREAS, Damon Wells, a Sophomore at Gibson County High School, was a young man of outstanding athleticism and exceptional character; and

WHEREAS, Damon Wells was respected by his peers, coaches, and teachers for his remarkable commitment to excellence and integrity in his every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Damon Wells was an invaluable member of the Gibson County High School Basketball Team; Damon Wells played the game of basketball with brilliant skill and matchless passion. He played basketball, not only because of his love for the game, but for the tremendous love he possessed for his teammates and coaches; it was this rare quality that earned him their unwavering admiration and respect; and

WHEREAS, Damon Wells' impeccable reputation stemmed from his openness about his unshakable religious beliefs and the noble values instilled in him by his mother; and

WHEREAS, he also took great pride in his family, and he always expressed his undying love for them; and

WHEREAS, Demetria Mays was an exceptional fourth-grader at Rutherford Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Demetria Mays' astonishing ability to smile in any situation won the hearts of her peers and teachers; she was always happy, and she managed to encourage and comfort her classmates with kindness and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Mays, Damon Wells, and Demetria Mays will be greatly missed by their loving families, friends, and the good people of Kenton and Gibson County; and

WHEREAS, all three of these exceptional individuals leave behind an indelible legacy of compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is rare that during the human experience we cross paths with such virtuous people; let us pause and give thanks for the bountiful lives of these outstanding Tennesseans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Sherry Mays, Damon Wells and Demetria Mays of Kenton, reflecting fondly upon their impeccable characters and their stalwart commitment to living examined lives with courage and strong Christian conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and many friends of Sherry Mays, Damon Wells and Demetria Mays.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.